United Nations S/2000/281

Security Council

Distr.: General
4 April 2000

Original: English

Letter dated 3 April 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Bahrain to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

In my capacity as Chairman of the Arab Group for the month of April 2000, and in the name of the States members of the League of Arab States, I have the honour to transmit herewith resolution No. 5948 dated 11 March 2000, entitled "The occupation by Iran of the Arab islands in the Arabian Gulf belonging to the United Arab Emirates", adopted by the Council of the League of Arab States at its one hundred and thirteenth regular session, held at the level of Ministers for Foreign Affairs on 11 and 12 March 2000 at Beirut (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would draw the attention of the members of the Security Council to the present letter and the annexed resolution, and have them circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Jassim Mohammed **Buallay**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of the State of Bahrain
to the United Nations
Chairman of the Arab Group

00-37679 (E) 040400 040400

Annex

[Original: Arabic]

The occupation by Iran of the Arab islands in the Arabian Gulf belonging to the United Arab Emirates

The Council of the League of Arab States,

Having considered:

The note by the General Secretariat,

The failure of the Iranian Government to respond to the sincere and serious calls of the Arab Summit, the Council of the League, the Damascus Declaration States, the Gulf Cooperation Council and the United Arab Emirates for a peaceful solution to the dispute,

The Iranian Government's continued occupation of the three islands belonging to the United Arab Emirates and imposition of the status quo by force,

Iran's conduct of military manoeuvres on the three occupied islands belonging to the United Arab Emirates, the Greater Tunb, the Lesser Tunb and Abu Musa, and in their territorial waters and the opening of a municipal hall and an educational complex on Abu Musa,

Decides:

1. To reaffirm all its previous resolutions concerning Iran's occupation of the three islands belonging to the United Arab Emirates in the Arabian Gulf;

2. To reaffirm absolutely the sovereignty of the United Arab Emirates over its three islands, the Greater Tunb, the Lesser Tunb and Abu Musa, and to support all peaceful measures and means that it may adopt to regain its sovereignty over its occupied islands;

3. To condemn the Iranian Government's continued occupation of the three islands and violation of the sovereignty of the United Arab Emirates, which disrupts the security and stability of the region and presents a threat to international peace and security;

4. To condemn the Iranian military manoeuvres that have covered the three occupied islands belonging to the United Arab Emirates, the Greater Tunb, the Lesser Tunb and Abu Musa and their territorial waters; and to call upon Iran to desist from perpetrating such violations and provocative acts that constitute intervention in the internal affairs of an independent sovereign State, do not help to build confidence, present a threat to security and stability in the region and endanger the security and safety of regional and international shipping in the Arabian Gulf;

5. To call upon the Iranian Government once again to put an end to its occupation of the three islands belonging to the United Arab Emirates, to desist from imposing the status quo by force, to halt the erection of any installations there with a view to changing their demographic and civilizational composition, to rescind all measures and remove all installations enacted or installed unilaterally in the three islands, inasmuch as they are inconsonant with the provisions of international law

and the Geneva Convention of 1949 and to pursue peaceful means for resolving the dispute in accordance with the principles and norms of international law, including acceptance of referral of the case to the International Court of Justice;

6. To call upon Iran to translate the desire announced during the term of office of Iranian President Mohammad Khatami to seek improved relations with the Arab States into practical, tangible steps, in word and in deed, in sincere response to the serious and sincere invocations from His Highness Shaikh Zayed bin Sultan an-Nahyan, President of the United Arab Emirates, the Gulf Cooperation Council, the Damascus Declaration States, the Arab States and the Secretary-General of the United Nations calling for a solution of the dispute concerning the three occupied islands belonging to the United Arab Emirates by peaceful means and in accordance with international custom, covenants and norms, through serious direct negotiations or resort to the International Court of Justice, in order to build confidence and strengthen security and stability in the region;

7. To inform the United Nations of the importance of maintaining the issue on the agenda of the Security Council until Iran ends its occupation of the three islands and the United Arab Emirates restores its full sovereignty over them;

8. To request the Secretary-General to follow up this topic and to submit a report to the Council at its next session.